

STAVING OFF A BILL.

THE GRAND PROMOTER EXEMPLIFIES IT AS A FINE ART.

Major Crofoot Organizes a New Scheme of Gigantic Proportions and Generously Takes in His Printer on the Ground Floor.

[Copyright, 1900, by C. B. Lewis.]

It was the printer with his bill for 3,000 office cards, and he knocked on Major Crofoot's office door in that half hearted way adopted by creditors who feel that they must call and yet have no faith that the bill will be paid.

"Come in, and good morning to you—good morning," shouted the major as he sprang up and extended his hand and shook so heartily that the caller's hat was nearly jostled off his head. When the shaking had been concluded, he said:

"I have been expecting you up here every day for a week, and if you



"SIMPLY TO REST EASY."

hadn't called today I should have sent a messenger to hunt you up. Did you remember to bring the bill?"

"Yes, sir," replied the printer as he handed it over.

"Good! Let's see. It's for \$4.50, and I pronounce it correct—absolutely correct. There never was a more correct account rendered—never in this commercial world. And now you want a check for it, of course? I must ask you to excuse me that this trifling has run so long, but when a man is dealing in millions he is apt to forget dollars."

"That is all right, major," replied the printer as a soft smile stole over his face, and he began wondering why he had ever called the promoter a dead beat.

"Thanks for your confidence—your financial confidence. I like men to have confidence in me. Let me tell you, sir, that the man who puts his trust in Major Crofoot, grand promoter, gigantic originator and tremendous consolidator, loses nothing by it. Here is a bill for \$4.50. It has run for weeks and months. Instead of wearing out the stairs and pounding on my door, you have been content to let time slip along. You felt that your money was safe. You believed that I would pay on presentation. Ah, sir, but I love to witness such exhibitions of confidence—I love to do it! Let us shake hands again."

"I'm in a bit of a hurry this morning," remarked the printer as a doubt suddenly entered his mind and sent a chill up his back.

"Ah, yes, of course you are—of course—and my time is also limited, but do you know what I am going to do? Instead of debating about a bill for \$4.50, I am going to talk to you of thousands and hundreds of thousands and millions. My dear man, you have arrived at an opportune moment. It almost seems as if the hand of Providence was in it. Having displayed your confidence in the financial integrity of Major Crofoot and arrived at an opportune moment, what follows?"

"You pay the bill for \$4.50," replied the printer.

"It follows, sir—it follows as naturally as night follows day, but with a heap more cash in it—that I take you in on the ground floor. Behold those papers on my desk. I had just ceased to figure when you came in. I had finished the last line of my prospectus. Behold, sir—behold the organization of the Wide World Chicken and Infant Raising company with a capital of \$20,000,000."

"Major, I called!"

"You called, sir—you called at an opportune moment. By calling you put it in my power to prove my gratitude in something besides words. What is the Wide World Chicken and Infant Raising company? As its name implies, the object is to raise chickens and infants. How, sir, how? Ah, that is Major Crofoot's great discovery, which has enabled him to organize a company on a basis of \$20,000,000. The discovery is not original, but we apply it as it has never been applied before. We incubate chickens, but by the million instead of the score. Take your pencil and figure a little."

"But I came up for my \$4.50," said the printer in ugly tones.

"Take your pencil and figure. Eggs can be bought for 20 cents a dozen. For 2 cents additional one dozen chickens can be reduced. Four cents more and you have a dozen spring chickens worth 50 cents apiece at the incubator; total for eggs, incubating and feeding, 30 cents; total for chickens, \$6; clear profit to divide up on every dozen, \$5.70. Can Cripple Creek or the diamond mines beat it? We produce 20,000,000 dozen chickens per year. Figure it out, sir, figure it out. Do you want greater dividends than 70 per cent on your capital? If you do?"

"What about this bill?" demanded the printer as he lifted it off the desk and laid it back again.

"If you do," continued the major as he walked about the room with hands crossed under his coat tails, "then you shall have it. We incubate infants in

the same machines, with only a thin partition between. We take infants after they are 24 hours old—white, black or any other color and without reference to sex—and we bring them up until they are a year old at so much per week. Terms are strictly cash in advance every Monday morning, and every kid is marked on the right heel with our stamp and can't get lost or mixed up in the shuffle. While we are hatching 1,000,000 dozen eggs we are bringing up 100,000 infants. I put the number at that, but it may be a few dozen more or less. Two dollars a week for 100,000 infants is over \$10,000,000 per year. Call the expense for milk, paregoric and toast \$1,000,000, and what profit do you have left?"

"But I have come here to collect a bill."

"The \$9,000,000 profit on the infants added to the profits on the chickens gives us a dividend of \$1.20 on the dollar, and can you ask for more, sir—can you do it? Why, man, the wealth of Golconda is not in it! The De Beers diamond bonds are waste paper in comparison! And you are to share in it. You are no longer a struggling printer on the seventh floor back, but a millionaire on the first floor front. I take you in. I allot you \$100,000 worth of stock at 30 cents on the dollar, and in two weeks, if you care to sell out, I buy it at par. That's your reward for your confidence in Major Crofoot; that's what comes!"

"But I have no confidence in you!" shouted the creditor. "Pay this bill, and you can incubate and be hanged and keep all the profits!"

"You have simply to rest easy," continued the major as he began to walk on the man's toes and drive him toward the door. "Just keep quiet for a couple of weeks, until the stock is issued. If anything was said at the present time!"

"What you pushing me for?"

"If anything was said at the present time, some one might cut in on us. Just go right back to your shop!"

"I want that money!"

"—and keep mum, and the stock will be sent to you in due time. That's it—good day—good day. Your confidence in Major Crofoot has brought its reward."

"Look here, major!" shouted the printer as he hammered on the outside of the door, "you are an old dead beat! You—you!"

The bill was shoved under the door against his toes. He picked it up, gave the door three hearty kicks and slowly went down stairs. He realized that he had been taken in on the ground floor.

M. QUAD.

MASTERING CHINESE.

One of the Most Difficult of Languages to Learn.

It is well known that the Chinese language is one of the most difficult to master, and for us to attempt this task after we have finished our school years is excessively trying and difficult. Certainly the mistakes one hears of as being made by those who begin to talk and, worse still, preach in a language they fondly imagine they have mastered are ludicrous in the extreme.

I heard of a clergyman who was preaching to a Chinese congregation in the vernacular. "Come to God, oh, my friends; come to God!" he cried (or thought he did) and was considerably surprised to find some of the congregation with broad grins on their faces, while others were frowning blackly. Great was the good man's consternation when he found he had been saying, "Call the pigs, oh, my friends; call the pigs!" His mistake, I believe, was due entirely to putting the accent on the wrong syllable, which altered the whole sense of the words.

The Chinese seem to regard a foreigner speaking Chinese like Dr. Johnson regarded women preaching. "It is like a dog standing on his hind legs," said the learned doctor. "You are not struck with admiration at how well he does it, but you are surprised he can do it at all."—Leslie's Weekly.

A Phillips Brooks Story.

The spirit of love and kindness to all which pervaded every word and deed of Phillips Brooks did not hinder his keen appreciation of others' failings and shortcomings or his own.

"Why in the world doesn't Brown write his autobiography and have it published?" said one of the bishop's friends, referring to an incessant talker and most egotistical man who had been wasting an hour of the bishop's most precious time by a rehearsal of some unimportant happenings.

"Why, he'd rather tell it, of course," said the bishop, and then like a flash came regret for the quickly spoken truth, and he turned on his friend with a half humorous, half distressed face.

"What do you mean by asking me such a question as that when I'm off my guard?" he demanded reproachfully.—Youth's Companion.

"Setting the River on Fire."

In old English times, when each family was obliged to sift its own flour, it sometimes happened that an energetic man would turn his sieve so rapidly as to cause it to catch fire. The style of sieve used in those days was called a "temse," and it became a customary saying that a lazy man would never set the temse on fire. Now, it happens that the name of the river Thames is pronounced like the name of this old flour sieve, and after many years, when the old fashioned temse was forgotten, it was thought that setting the temse on fire meant setting the river on fire, and that is why today we say that a stupid person will never set the river on fire.—Ladies' Home Journal.

In every family you'll find an old man trying to quit smoking and a young one trying to learn.—Aitchison Globe.

Age may not be garrulous, but there is no denying the fact that it tells on both men and women.—Exchange.



You're a gainer by

buying Coal of us. An honest ton weighing 2000 pounds, delivered at a short price, that's our specialty. There are no kickers on our list because we satisfy every customer. Taking the year through, the outlay for coal is large, and the expenditure should be made wisely. Just give us a chance and we'll make you come out ahead.

Payne-Badger Coal Co.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

Wood, Lime, Cement, Plaster

Telephone 389 Second and Chihuahua



It's Money

in your pocket if the house you buy or build is constructed with

Building Material

from our yard; and you will make no mistake if you buy from

FEED AND FUEL

of all kinds from us. We carry the best of everything in our line.

El Paso Fuel Co., Phone 110, Office: 411 Santa Fe St.

Link Saloon and Short Order Restaurant

Cool Lemp's Beer Always on Tap.

Oysters, Fish and Game in Season.

Wine Rooms Attached.

Service first-class. 215 El Paso St.

If You

want to find a man and don't see him on the streets, go to the

Gem Billiard Rooms

The Gentlemen's Resort.

Capitan HOTEL

The Fuel Company's new hotel at Capitan will be formally opened to the public on May 15th. Spacious, new and handsomely furnished rooms have been added, and guests have the choice of either American or European service. Short order service at all hours, and a well stocked lunch counter with all the delicacies of the season awaits the weary traveler directly opposite the depot. MA CHUCKO, Proprietor, Capitan, New Mexico.

Summer Resorts

Many delightful summer resorts are situated on and reached by Southern Railway. Whether one desires the seashore or the mountain, the fashionable hotels or country houses, they can be reached via this magnificent highway of travel.

Asheville, N. C., Hot Springs, N. C., Hale Springs, Tenn., Roan Mountain, Tenn., and the Mountain resorts of East Tennessee and Western North Carolina, "The Land of the Sky," Tate Springs, Tenn., Oliver Springs, Tenn., Lookout Mountain, Tenn., Monte Sano, Huntsville, Ala., Lithia Springs, Ga., and various Virginia Springs; also the seashore resorts, are reached by the Southern Railway on convenient schedules and very low rates.

The Southern Railway has issued a handsome folder, entitled "Summer Homes and Resorts," descriptive of nearly one thousand summer resorts, hotels and boarding houses, including information regarding rates for board at the different places and railroad rates to reach them.

Write to C. A. Benscoter, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Southern Railway, Chattanooga, Tennessee, for descriptive matter.

For Over Fifty Years.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea, twenty five cents a bottle.

PROFESSIONAL IRVIN JOHN Engineer EL PASO

JAMES H. MARTINEAU, Civil, Hydraulic and Mining Engineer.

Have Had Forty Years' Experience.

COLONIA JUAREZ, : : : MEXICO.

J. A. HALSTED GODFREY HUGHES

The Custom Assay Office

119 San Francisco St.



We act as agents for Shippers to Smelter

Control and Umpire Work a Specialty.

We are prepared to handle ores from a hand sample to five-ton lots, as we have the LARGEST crushing power plant of any office in the Southwest.

AINSWORTH'S ASSAY BALANCES.

We carry a complete line of these goods in El Paso.



EL PASO MINE, MILL, AND SMELTER SUPPLY HOUSE.

SEAMON.... Assay and Chemical Laboratories....

If you want reliable assays and analyses give us a trial.

The only power crushing plant in an assay office south of Denver.

Careful attention given ore shipments to El Paso smelters.

208 MESA AVENUE,

P. O. BOX 97. El Paso, Texas.

Independent Assay Office

ESTABLISHED 1888.

D. W. Reckhart, E. M. Proprietor.

Agent for Ore Shippers, Assays and Chemical Analysis.

MINES EXAMINED AND REPORTED UPON.

Bolton Work a Specialty.

P. O. BOX 88, Office and Laboratory, Cor. San Francisco & Chihuahua Sts., EL PASO, TEXAS.



For the Toilet Table

our Complexion Creams, Toilet Waters, Perfumes, and Powders are indispensable for the refined and dainty woman. We have everything in toilet articles in sponges, loofahs, sea salt, fine soaps, bath, nail and tooth brushes, that are of superior manufacture and reliable quality.

FRED SCHAEFFER, The Druggist.

J. A. ROGERS, Real Estate and Rental Agent

Proprietor OHOPIN HALL, the "first-class hall in the city for dances, Concerts, Socials, Lodge Meetings, Quack Walks, etc." FOR SALE 9-room brick residence near Hotel Dieu; easy terms. Collections promptly made and remitted. Office in rear Ohopin Hall. San Antonio Street.

Every One Eats AT THE SILVER KING CAFE

Most popular lunch counter in the city. Anything you want: the best of food and the best of service. "The best Chilli Con Carne in the city every night at 8 o'clock."

Open Day and Night.. STEIN & UHLIG, Props.

209 San Antonio St. EL PASO

EL PASO Mine, Mill, and Smelter Supply House.

STORE AND WAREHOUSE: EL PASO, TEXAS. N. OREGON ST. MILLS BUILDING. Gen. Office and Works; Chihuahua, Mex.



We have recently added to our stock in El Paso a complete line of Assayers' Balances and Supplies, Electrical Fixtures, Motors, Etc., Asbestos Packing and Covering, and have a heavy stock of Mining Machinery, Pipe and Pipe Fittings, Steam Fittings of Every Description, Blacksmiths' Supplies, including a heavy stock of Round, Square and Band Iron, Sheet Steel, etc., and, in fact, have now in our warehouse in El Paso such a complete stock of Mining and Milling Machinery and Supplies as will make it to your interest to write us before placing your order elsewhere.

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO we are the LARGEST and, practically, ONLY MACHINERY MANUFACTURERS WHO MANUFACTURE

CONCENTRATING MILLS, STAMP MILLS, CYANIDE MILLS, CHLORINATION MILLS, PAN-AMALGAMATION MILLS.

Hoisting Plants, Pumping Plants and Wire Rope Tramways Complete.

Write for estimates and prices before purchasing elsewhere.

JUAN A. CREEL, Gen. Mgr. B. L. BERKEY, Mgr.

FIRE INSURANCE

I WRITE Fire Insurance in strong agency companies only, and give especial attention to correct policy forms and adjustment of losses. Fair rates and good treatment. I solicit a share of your business.

311 Oregon Street Horace R. Chase

NAGLEY and LYONS, Successors Caldwell Undertaking Co.

Expert Funeral Directors and Embalmers

Parlors 305 El Paso St.

Office Open Day and Night Telephone 197

J. R. MCGIBBON,

309 El Paso Street, Opera House Block.

STOVES ST. CLAIR STEEL RANGES, CROCKERY, LAMPS.

GLASSWARE, ETC.

Refrigerators Cheap in Order to Close Out.

Emerson & Berrien, UNDERTAKERS.

324 & 326 El Paso St. Phones 71, 68 & 196.

Coarse and Carriages Furnished.

VITAL MAGNETISM,

Osteopathy, Massage, Yogi Breathing,

Will Cure any Curable Disease.

When drugs and medicines fail, come and consult me.

Consultation Free. GEO. P. WELCH.

615 Mesa Street, El Paso, Texas

DR. NG CHE HOK Graduate Chinese Physician

Over 30 years' experience in treating all diseases of men and women.

He guarantees to cure Blood Poison, Lost Manhood, Skin Diseases, Dropsy, Hernia, Gonorrhea, Crofuta, Paralysis, Rheumatism, Disease of Brain, Heart, Lung, Kidneys, Liver, Bladder, and all female Complaints.

All diseases cured exclusively by Chinese herbs without surgical operations.

Consultation Free

Hours: 9 a. m. to 8 p. m.; Sundays, 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.

Office, 105 Myrtle Ave.

Off San Antonio St., next Delaware Furniture Store.

PROFESSIONAL.

A. G. FOSTER,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

Special attention given to Real Estate and Probate Law. Will practice in all the courts.

ROOM 8, MUNDY BLOCK.

EL PASO, TEXAS

If you want a Nobby and Neat Suit of the best material Call on

NAP J. ROY.

The Merchant Tailor

of El Paso.

DOCTOR EDGAR,

Homeopathic Physician.

ALL REMEDIES FURNISHED.

Special study and experience for 24 years in diseases of Women and Children, Obstetrics and Chronic Diseases. In treating to cure Consumption, the Creator's laws are followed.

Office and Residence—The front suite of rooms up stairs, 109 El Paso street.

Office Hours—Early and afterwards. WM also do general practice.

Shady Grove butter 2 lbs for 45 cents at El Paso Grocery.

EASTERN GRILL

First-class restaurant in every respect. First-class cooking. Short orders day and night.

Dinner Daily at 3 p. m.

123 El Paso St., Next to Cooper's

The "STAR" Livery, Feed and Sale Stables

Cor. W. Overland and Santa Fe Sts.

BEST AND CHEAPEST RIGS IN CITY.

J. CALDWELL, Prop. PHONE 1